


HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY



a brief
BIBLIOGRAPHY
for the
RESTORATION
of
HISTORIC
BUILDINGS

number one

United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Division of Historic Architecture

H I S T O R I C A M E R I C A N B U I L D I N G S S U R V E Y

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Paul Goeldner AIA, Compiler
1971

Because each restoration has specifically unique circumstances it is more important that the architect and craftsmen be able to "read" the building than that they consult a body of literature which is as yet fragmentary. The most important architectural documents to a restorationist would be original drawings and specifications or the source books and pattern books of the builder if they can be found. Handbooks and guides to the various building trades are especially useful if they are roughly contemporary with the construction being restored.

Most of the books, articles and pamphlets listed are thought to be reasonably available, either for purchase or in major architectural libraries. Resources for their compilation include:

Guide to Historic Preservation, Historical Agencies, and Museum Practices: A Selective Bibliography, Cooperstown, New York State Historical Association, 1970: 239-241.

Historic Preservation: A Bibliography, compiled by Gary L. Menges, Associate Fine Arts Librarian, Cornell University, Council of Planning Librarians Exchange Bibliography No. 79, 1969: 52-54.

Orin M. Bullock, Jr., The Restoration Manual, Norwalk, Conn., Silvermine Publishers, 1966: 178-180.

* indicates current availability from the publisher.

+ indicates items available for purchase from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 740 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, as a public service.

* / American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Nashville, Tennessee. Technical Leaflets. Those of particular interest in preservation include:

15. Batcheler, Penelope Hartshorne, "Paint Color Research and Restoration"
24. Rempel, John I. "Tools of the Woodworker: Hand Planes"
28. Hodgkinson, Ralph, "Tools of the Woodworker: Axes, Adzes, and Hatchets"
48. Nelson, Lee H. "Nail Chronology as an Aid to Dating Old Buildings"

* "The Architect as Preservationist," Chapter 21, Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, Washington, D.C., The American Institute of Architects, 1971. 8 pp.
Outlines the range of the architects services and obligations in restoration and preservation work.

Baker, Roy W. "To Keep an Old House in Good Standing" Old-Time New England, v. 46, Spring 1956: 100-105.

Braun, Hugh. The Restoration of Old Houses, London, Faber and Faber, 1954. 192 pp. illus. A basic British text.

Bulletin of APT (Association for Preservation Technology). This quarterly for Canadian and American preservationists was designated a "Newsletter" in Vol. I, 1969. Subjects treated in entire issues include:

"Paint" v. I, No. 2, August 1969

"Roofing Materials" v. II, Nos. 1 & 2, 1970

Articles in v. II, Nos. 3 & 4 include:

Judd, Henry A. "Before Restoration Starts"

McKee, Harley J. "Early Ways of Quarrying and Working Stone in the United States"

Stumes, Paul, "The Application of Epoxy Resins for the Restoration of Historic Structures"

* / Bullock, Orin M., Jr. The Restoration Manual, An Illustrated Guide to the Preservation and Restoration of Old Buildings. Norwalk, Conn., Silvermine Publishers, 1966. 181 pp. illus. \$8.90. This is probably the most basic and essential of available books on architectural restoration.

* The Carpenters Company of the City and County of Philadelphia 1786 Rule Book. Annotated, with an introduction by Charles E. Peterson FAIA. Princeton, Pyne Press, 1971. 156 pp. illus. \$8.95 hardback, \$3.50 paper. A catalog of carpentry elements, the pricing of which indicates the relative elegance of the work in which each would be used.

- Claiborne, Herbert A. Comments on Virginia Brickwork Before 1800, Boston, Walpole Society, 1957. 47 pp., plates. A significant study of the historical uses of a locally important material.
- Congdon, Herbert Wheaton. Early American Homes for Today: A Treasury of Decorative Details and Restoration Procedures, Rutland, Vermont, Charles E. Tuttle Co., 1963. 236 pp. illus. \$12.50. Limited to Vermont residential details; directed more to the do-it-yourself craftsman than the professional.
- The Conservation of Cultural Property. No. IX in Museums and Monuments Series, Lausanne, UNESCO, 1968. 341 pp. illus. A collection of articles, some highly technical, some not architectural, and all particularly germane to tropical climates.
- * / Conservation of Stone.
Conservation of Wooden Objects. Preprints of the Contributions to the New York Conference on Conservation of Stone and Wooden Objects, London, The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, 1971. 134 and 136 pp. illus. \$4.50 each.
- Curtis, John O. "Moving Historic Buildings" A.I.A. Journal, v. 43 (March 1965): 41-46.
- * / Emerick, R. H. "Heating of Restorations" reprint from Progressive Architecture, August 1957, Washington, D.C., the National Trust for Historic Preservation. 12 pp. Brief survey of objectives and techniques. \$.10.
- Forsyth, W. A. "The Repair of Ancient Buildings," R.I.B.A. Journal, Ser. 3, v. 21, 1913-14: 109-137. Good, if obtainable.
- * / Gilchrist, Agnes. A Primer on the Care and Repair of Buildings, Mount Vernon, N. Y., 1963. 4 pp. A useful non-technical leaflet. \$.10.
- Great Britain, Ministry of Public Buildings and Works. Notes on the Repair and Preservation of Historic Buildings: Timberwork, London, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1965. 19 pp. illus. (out-of-print)
- Hooper, Charles Edward. Reclaiming the Old House. Its Modern Problems and Their Solution as Governed by the Methods of Its Builders. New York, McBride, Nast & Company, 1913. 162 pp. illus. An early restoration guide intended for the buyer of an old house for his own use.

Insall, Donald W. The Care of Old Buildings; a Practical Guide for Architects and Owners, London, Harrison and Sons Ltd. A 72 pp illus. reprint from The Architects' Journal, v. 128, Sept. 25, 1958. Very useful.

- * / Jenkins, Joseph. Protecting Our Heritage: A Discourse on Fire Protection and Prevention in Historic Buildings and Landmarks, Boston National Fire Protection Association, 1970. 44 pp. illus. \$2.00.

- * Johnson, Sidney M. Deterioration, Maintenance, and Repair of Structures, New York, McGraw-Hill, 1965. 373 pp. \$13.75. Emphasis on the maintenance of harbor and dock installations of steel, concrete and timber.

- * Kelly, J. Frederick AIA. The Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut. (Yale 1924) New York, Dover reprint, 1963. 210 pp. illus. \$3.50. Analyzes each element in construction from the structural frame to the decorative details.

- The Henry Whitfield House, 1639. The Journal of the Restoration of The Old Stone House, Guilford, Guilford, Conn., The Henry Whitfield State Historical Museum, 1939. 60 pp.

- Kelsall, Moultrie R. and Stuart Harris. A Future for the Past, Edinburgh, Oliver and Boyd, 1961. 151 pp. illus. A thorough study based on Scottish experience.

- * / McKee, Harley J. Recording Historic Buildings, U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., 1970. 165 pp. illus. A comprehensive outline of criteria and techniques used in the recording programs of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Available: Government Printing Office \$3.50.

- * Mercer, Henry C. The Dating of Old Houses, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, The Bucks County Historical Society, 1923. 28 pp. illus. Dr. Mercer's pioneering studies in early American crafts and tools are exemplified in this pamphlet.

Monumentum. Annual publication of the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Louvain, Belgium. Articles (in French and English) have dealt primarily with administrative aspects of restoration but the extensive bibliographies in Vol. 2, 3, and 4 are a guide to the international technical literature on restoration, only a fraction of which is in English.

Phillips, Morgan and Christopher Whitney. "The Restoration of Original Paints at Otis House" Old-Time New England, v. 62 (July-Sept. 1971): 25-28. Explains how samples from original surfaces can be analyzed and duplicated. Soon to be revised and enlarged.

Powys, A. R. Repair of Ancient Buildings. New York, E. P. Dutton & Co., 1929. 208 pp. illus. Based on early 20th century British experience, it is thorough and based on soundly reasoned theory.

- * / Olszewski, George J. Restoration of Ford's Theatre, U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service Historic Structures Report, 1963. 138 pp. illus. Others of their reports on the restoration of historic buildings may be consulted at the National Park Service but this is the only one printed for public distribution. A full set of these reports may also be found in the Library of Congress.

"Restoration and Preservation of Historic Buildings" Building Research, v. 1, (Sept-Oct. 1964), entire issue, 57 pp. Papers delivered at major symposium on restoration; of prime value.

Ritchie, T. "On Using Old Bricks in New Buildings," Canadian Building Digest, June 1971, Ottawa, Division of Building Research, National Research Council. This four-page leaflet, one of a monthly series begun in 1960, is probably the most applicable to restoration work specifically.

- * U. S. Department of Agriculture. Wood Decay in Houses and How to Prevent It. Home and Garden Bulletin No. 73. Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1960. 17 pp.

- * Waite, Diana S. 19th Century Tin Roofing and its use at Hyde Hall. Albany, New York State Historical Trust, 1971. 55 pp. illus. A thorough description from primary sources of materials and methods used for roofing with tin and terne plate.

Williams, Henry L. and Ottalie K. Williams. Old American Houses: How to Restore, Remodel and Reproduce Them, New York, Coward-McCann, 1957. 190 pp. illus. This presents a less professional viewpoint than other books.

